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# Professional Development and Inclusion eNews, September 2011

An email update from the National Professional Development Center on Inclusion and CONNECT: The Center to Mobilize Early Childhood Knowledge.

**Announcements:** CONNECT to Offer Pre-DEC Workshop | New Grant Provides Support to NC Community College Faculty | Save-the Date for the 2012 National Early Childhood Inclusion Institute

**Online Discussions:** CONNECT Modules | Christine's Chronicles

**Resources:** Upcoming and Recent Presentations | CONNECT Modules

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## Announcements

### CONNECT To Offer Evidence-Based Practice Pre-Conference Workshop at DEC in November

Thursday November 17, 2011 Division for Early Childhood Conference, National Harbor, MD

This workshop will provide faculty, doctoral students, and PD providers with a chance to learn about and apply an innovative clinical teaching approach and free, web-based resources into their upcoming courses, seminars and PD events. Content on specific practices such as embedded interventions, transition practices, communication for collaboration, family-professional partnerships, and dialogic reading will be provided. A significant portion of the workshop will focus on small group work during which participants will apply the ideas from the workshop to a course, seminar, supervision, or PD event for which they are responsible.

**Read more and register >>**

### New Grant Provides Support to NC Community College Faculty

Investigators Tracey West (NPDCI), and Dale Epstein and Chih-Ing Lim (CONNECT) will lead a new project designed to better prepare NC early childhood educators to serve young children with disabilities. Over four years and with funding from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education programs, the project will work with six community colleges to enhance and revise courses offered by early childhood faculty. Through project efforts the impact of the course changes will extend to community colleges across the state. The project helps to further the goals of NC's NPDCI work around inclusion and professional development and will incorporate the CONNECT Modules as an integral part of their work.

### Save the Date! National Inclusion Institute May 14–16, 2012

The Twelfth Annual National Early Childhood Inclusion Institute will be held May 14-16, 2012 in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. The Inclusion Institute Keynote Panel will feature federal policy leaders: Shannon Rudisill, Director of Office of Child Care; Melody Musgrove, Director of U.S. Department of Education, OSEP, and Yvette Sanchez Fuentes, Director of Office of Head Start.

## Online Discussions

Your comments are invited!

### Christine's Chronicles

#### First Day of Kindergarten

by Christine Lindauer

### CONNECT Modules

#### Dialogic Reading Practices

by Sharon Palsha

Christine talks about preparations for Luke's first day of kindergarten.

[Read more](#) | [Comment](#)

[View all State Work discussions](#)

What techniques do you currently use to teach storybook reading to students? Do you provide chances for your students to practice and get feedback on reading storybooks to groups? What strategies do you use to do that?

[Read more](#) | [Comment](#)

[View all CONNECT Module discussions](#)

## CONNECTED

CONNECT Module Updates and Tips for Early Childhood Faculty and PD providers

**We recently updated the CONNECT Module site with several new features for instructors. View the following quick tours for more information.**

- CONNECT Quick Tour: Instructors (6 min. 36 sec.)
- CONNECT Quick Tour: Resource Library (3 min. 9 sec.)
- CONNECT Quick Tour: Learners (3 min. 28 sec.)
- All CONNECT Quick Tours



Get CONNECT Module updates and more via your Facebook account.

## Resources

### Early Educator Competencies: New NPDCI Concept Paper

The National Professional Center on Inclusion (NPDCI) has released a concept paper identifying issues and providing guidance to states as they develop early educator competencies in the context of inclusion. Key issues include ensuring competencies reflect emerging research on effective practices for working in inclusive settings with children with and without disabilities, as well as linking early educator competencies with quality professional development opportunities, accountability systems, and other components of a comprehensive early childhood system.

Read More: [Competencies for Early Childhood Educators in the Context of Inclusion: Guidance and Issues for States](#)

### Recent CONNECT and NPDCI Presentations

#### NAeyc 2011 Conference, Raleigh, NC, September 15-17

- Evidence-Based Practices to Support Inclusion  
Presenter: Pam Winton and Dale Epstein, FPG Child Development Institute
- Inclusion Resources at Your Fingertips  
Presenter: Camille Catlett, FPG Child Development Institute
- Response to Intervention (RTI): How does it work and who benefits?  
Presenter: Camille Catlett, FPG Child Development Institute

#### OSEP Project Directors' Meeting, Washington, DC, July 18, 2011.

- *Connecting practice-based preparation with state systems of professional development: What role can higher ed. faculty play?*  
Presenters: Christy Kavulic, OSEP, Pam Winton, FPG Child Development Institute, Carol Trivette, Orlena Hawks Puckett Institute, Lise Fox, University of South Florida, and Barbara Smith, University of Colorado Denver

#### NAEYC PDI 2011, Providence, RI, June 12-15, 2011.

- *CONNECT professional development modules: Infusing diversity and inclusion into NAEYC Professional Preparation Standards*  
Presenters: Alison Lutton, NAEYC, Pam Winton & Virginia Buysse, FPG Child Development Institute, Johnna Darragh,

Heartland Community College, Susan Fowler, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, & Nancy Grausam, Pennsylvania College of Technology

- *PQR(I)S: The Intersection of QRIS, PD, and Inclusion*

Presenters: Susan Rohrbough, National Child Care Information and Technical Assistance Center, Valerie Krajec, National Child Care Information and Technical Assistance Center, and Pam Winton, FPG Child Development Institute

## **CONNECT Modules**

- **Module 1: Embedded Interventions: Instructor Dashboard | Learner Module | Spanish Version**  
Learn about the practice of embedded interventions to help children participate in a variety of early learning opportunities and environments promoting high quality inclusion.
- **Module 2: Transition: Instructor Dashboard | Learner Module | Spanish Version**  
Learn about practices to help support children and families as they transition among programs in the early care and education system.
- **Module 3: Communication for Collaboration: Instructor Dashboard | Learner Module | Spanish Version**  
Learn about effective communication practices that can be used to promote collaboration with professionals and families in early care and education, and intervention settings.
- **Module 4: Family-Professional Partnerships: Instructor Dashboard | Learner Module | Spanish Version**  
Learn about building trusting family-professional partnerships when working with families of young children.
- **Module 5: Assistive Technology Interventions: Instructor Dashboard | Learner Module**  
Learn about the purpose, use and potential benefits of assistive technology interventions when working with young children.
- **Module 6: Dialogic Reading Practices: Instructor Dashboard | Learner Module**  
Learn about the purpose, use and potential benefits of dialogic reading practices when working with young children.

## **Upcoming CONNECT Modules**

- **Module 7: Tiered Approaches: Social Emotional Development (Winter 2011)**
- **Module 8: Tiered Approaches: Academic Practices (Spring 2012)**

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## **"Word of Mouse"**

Your word is better than ours. Forward this issue to a colleague and let them know about the work our community is doing.

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This newsletter is an initiative of the National Professional Development Center on Inclusion, CONNECT: The Center to Mobilize Early Childhood Knowledge at the FPG Child Development Institute. Project funding is provided by the Office of Special Education Programs.

